

## **IRRIGATION LITIGATION**

### **From Lehi Centennial History**

Because of numerous disputes between the people of Lehi and the farmers of American Fork Bench over the right to use water from the Lehi ditch, in its course

from the mouth of American Fork Canyon to Lehi, the city corporation planted a suit in court, in the summer of 1877, to restrain the people on the bench from using the Lehi ditch.

Oley Ellingson was at the head of a list of two hundred Lehi water users who represented the city in the suit. After a long trial, the district court, through Judge Emerson, decided in favor of Lehi, giving the city exclusive use of the Lehi ditch during July, August, and September. Although several appeals have been made, this decision is still, practically the basis of water distribution.

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